

Daily Report

Latin America

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Cuba

Castro Meets American Lawyers Association Head
*FL161242 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish
1214 GMT 16 Apr 88*

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, president of the Cuban Councils of State and Ministers, has met with Dr (Beinutz Smuckler), president of the American Lawyers Association, who presided over a delegation invited by the National Union of Cuban Lawyers.

The visitor was briefed in depth on the transformation process of the capital and of the workers advancements in matters related to labor law and social security. He was also informed in detail about the changes in the Cuban penal code.

For his part, (Smuckler) briefed Fidel on the work done by the American Lawyers Association in our continent since the successful holding of the eighth conference in Havana last September. He also outlined the organization's future plans.

U.S. Cardinal O'Connor Arrives in Havana
*FL191450 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish
1100 GMT 19 Apr 88*

[Text] U.S. Cardinal John O'Connor arrived in Havana last night. He was invited by the Cuban Catholic Church. This is the first time in 135 years a New York archbishop has paid a visit to Cuba. The country's Catholic Church thanked the government for the efficient support given in organizing the cardinal's trip.

Castro Receives Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister
*FL2004132588 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network
in Spanish 1100 GMT 20 Apr 88*

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro Ruz, president of the Councils of State and Ministers, has received a delegation from the Islamic Republic of Iran led by First Deputy Foreign Minister 'Ali Mohammad Besharati. The Iranian representative was the bearer of a message from President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i. He also provided information on the situation in the region. Besharati dealt primarily with the recent attacks perpetrated by U.S. Navy units stationed in the Arabian-Persian Gulf against Iranian oil platforms and ships.

Vice Foreign Minister Giraldo Mazola attended the talks for Cuba.

Tehran Reports Meeting
*LD201026 Tehran IRNA in English 0841 GMT
20 Apr 88*

[Text] Tehran, April 20, IRNA—Cuban leader Fidel Castro on Tuesday condemned U.S. attack on Iranian oil platforms and called on progressive countries to denounce it.

In a meeting with Acting Foreign Minister Mohammad Besharati Castro said that the U.S. committed such dirty acts out of its fear of the Islamic Revolution and that Reagan's foreign policy was based on creating insecurity in various parts of the world.

He noted that such measures would make some of U.S. allies hesitant and draw the world to a nuclear war.

The Cuban leader thanked President Khamene'i for his message and said that chemical weapons were so terrible and inhuman that they were not deployed in the Second World War.

Besharati also met Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca Monday and discussed with him ways to expand bilateral ties, international situation and other issues of mutual concern.

Cuba's Foreign Ministry released a communique condemning the recent U.S. aggression on Iranian oil platforms and called for the pull-out of all foreign forces from the Persian Gulf.

The communique also compared the U.S. forces attack on Iran's oil platforms to their foiled invasion of Cuba in 1959.

PCC Sends Message to PLO on Al-Wazir's Death
*FL191312 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish
1100 GMT 19 Apr 88*

[Text] The PCC has sent a message to the PLO expressing its condolences over the assassination of Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], the prominent Palestinian leader. It also denounced the fact that the permanent support of the U.S. Administration encourages Israel to commit deplorable crimes such as this one, to continue occupying the Palestinian territories in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank under the most merciless conditions of terror, and to practice expansionist and aggressive policies against the Arab peoples. The note ends by saying: Reiterating our condolences, we affirm our militant solidarity with your just and heroic cause.

[Signed] Central Committee of the PCC

Officials Sign Condolence Book
*FL192250 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish
2048 GMT 19 Apr 88*

[Text] Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca today signed the book of condolences opened at the PLO mission in Cuba for the murdered Khalil al-Wazir, alias Abu Jihad, who was deputy commander of the Palestinian Revolution Forces. Al-Wazir was a member of the Al-Fatah Central Committee and one of its founders. He was gunned down by an Israeli terrorist commando who broke into his Tunis home.

The book of condolences had been signed earlier by Jorge Risquet Valdes and Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, both members of the PCC Politburo.

Soviet Parliamentarians Arrive in Havana

*FL191415 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish
1100 GMT 19 Apr 88*

[Text] A delegation of Soviet parliamentarians headed by Aleksandr Mokanu, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet, has arrived in Havana. The group will also visit Guyana, Trinidad and Tobago, and Jamaica.

Aguirre Meets With Group

*FL192303 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish
2049 GMT 19 Apr 88*

[Text] Severo Aguirre del Cristo, member of the PCC Central Committee, met today with the delegation headed by Aleksandr Mokanu, chairman of the Moldavian Supreme Soviet. Aguirre, who is also acting president of the National Assembly of the People's Government (ANPP), expressed satisfaction with the meeting, which helps to further strengthen the relations between the two parliaments. He reiterated how happy he was over his contact with a delegation from Lenin's fatherland. For his part, Mokanu said he and his delegation were eager to tour Havana, and expressed interest in the construction projects carried out with the participation of the masses.

The Soviet delegation stopped in Cuba on its way to Guyana, which it will visit beginning tomorrow. It will then visit Trinidad and Tobago and Jamaica.

Officials on Existence of 'International Mafia'

*FL191348 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish
1100 GMT 19 Apr 88*

[Text] Customs and Cubatur [National and International Tourist Enterprise] officials have revealed to the press the existence of an international mafia which operates to damage Cuba. The mafia is headquartered in Miami with branches in Mexico, Panama, and Venezuela; from these locations, smugglers visit our country disguised as tourists.

This mafia operates by introducing in the country contraband articles and dollars for the black market. With this, it attempts to create economic difficulties and distort the local market. Numerous pieces of evidence and confessions from those involved in these mafia activities prove its existence and its aggressive and destabilizing actions in our country.

Antigua and Barbuda

Recalled Envoy Hospitalized; Given Extension

*FL200100 Bridgetown CANA in English 2029 GMT
18 Apr 88*

[Text] New York, April 18, CANA—Beleaguered Antiguan diplomat Lloydstone Jacobs, recalled by his government this month, amidst United States allegations that he was involved in selling American immigration documents and Antiguan passports, was hospitalised here Sunday for dizziness, hypertension, and stress, officials said Monday.

Jean Frazer, a spokeswoman for Our Lady of Mercy Medical Centre in the Bronx told CANA that Jacobs, Antigua's ambassador to the United Nations since 1981, was in stable condition and resting.

Officials at Antigua's U.N. mission declined to comment, except to confirm that Jacobs had been recalled by St John's for consultation and that the office was now being headed by Minister Counsellor Dr Patrick Lewis.

Permanent Secretary in the Antigua Foreign Ministry Eric Challenger flew home at the weekend after supervising the transition.

Informed sources here said that the U.S. State Department, which had set Jacobs a deadline for leaving this country, had granted his request for a 10-day extension to wind up his affairs.

Jacobs told CANA April 8 that the Antigua Government had received a letter from the U.S. (Administration) indicating that I was under investigation for engaging in the sale of passports, money laundering, and something to do with green cards. He denied the charges.

Meanwhile sources in Antigua said that Challenger, back on the job after his U.S. trip, met on Monday with Foreign Minister Lester Bird. Neither of them could be reached for comment.

The government itself has declined to say more than it has already—that Jacobs has been recalled and that Dr Lewis, the second in command at the mission, will temporarily head the office.

Labor Party Candidates for Elections Unchanged

*FL191615 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English
1130 GMT 19 Apr 88*

[Text] The ruling Antigua Labor Party [ALP] has decided not to change its slate of candidates to run in a future general election. The move ends speculation that some ruling party candidates would be expelled because of their criticism of the government. Constitutionally, an election is due to be held in 1989 but there has been widespread speculation that the election will be called sometime this year.

Barbados

Opposition Urges U.S. To Handle Drug Problems *FL192225 Bridgetown CANA in English 2100 GMT* 15 Apr 88

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, April 15, CANA—Barbados opposition Henry Forde has called on the United States to do more to tackle its drug problem at home and desist from using Caribbean leaders as a "scapegoat" in its fight against the illegal drug trade.

"We have to get Americans to concentrate on their problems at home and not to use leaders outside as a scapegoat for their failure to answer their own internal problems," Forde said on CANA radio's "Caribbean Crossfire" programme on Thursday night.

Jamaica's attorney-general and minister of justice, Oswald Harding, and speaker of Trinidad and Tobago's House of Assembly, Nizam Mohammed, joined Forde in a discussion on allegations that Caribbean leaders are involved in the illegal drug trade and the impact of these charges on the region.

Jamaica's Prime Minister Edward Seaga and Bahamas Prime Minister Lynden Pindling were alleged by drug barons testifying in the United States to be involved in the illegal drug trade. An independent commission in the Bahamas found no evidence that Sir Lynden was involved in the drugs racket and the allegations against Jamaican political and police leaders have been unsubstantiated.

"It is a most disturbing thing to hear the prime minister of a country being attacked on hearsay, double hearsay, without having the opportunity within the (U.S.) congressional system to defend himself," said the Barbados opposition leader.

Forde, leader of the Barbados Labour Party and a former attorney-general, expressed concern at the readiness of Caribbean leaders to meet with and accept potential investors because of interest in securing funds for national development. Some of these so-called investors, Forde said, may well be connected to the drug trade and subsequently conversations and meetings with Caribbean leaders are used to rouse suspicion about them.

"I think it is in the interest of Caribbean leaders that we become more conscious of people with whom we deal in our anxiety to develop our country," Forde said.

Forde said that drug barons and the U.S. press have sought to destabilise Caribbean countries and political leaders through their allegations. He called on the U.S. Administration to help the Caribbean beef up its increasing costly security to detect illegal drugs.

"I'm talking about internal security. I'm not talking about arming us for a war but really arming us to deal with the problem of drug barons and providing the systems to prevent the infiltration within the Caribbean countries," Forde explained.

He also urged the U.S. Administration to engage in fairer terms of trade with the region.

"It is nonsense for someone from the southern United States who in Congress will argue that they must protect sugar barons of the southern U.S., even if they are unproductive, to the disadvantage of the Caribbean, to at the same time get up and pontificate about drugs coming from Caribbean countries," Forde said.

The BLP leader also criticised the United States for using economic pressure to oust Panamanian military leader, Manuel Noriega who has been indicted in the United States on drug charges.

"Nobody can really agree with the U.S. using economic sanctions to bring Panama to its knees merely to get Mr. Noriega to the U.S. and at the same time resist using economic sanctions to deal with the question of apartheid," he said.

Dominica

Charles Willing To Meet With Haiti's Manigat *FL181520 Bridgetown CANA in English 2057 GMT* 16 Apr 88

[text] Roseau, Dominica, 16, CANA—Dominica's prime minister, Eugenia Charles, is willing to go to Port-au-Prince and confer with Haiti's newly elected president, Leslie Manigat.

Charles declared her willingness to accept an invitation to visit Haiti because she didn't believe the new leader could leave his country at this time.

"I may not invite President Manigat to visit Dominica because I don't know if he can leave Haiti, but I would have no objection to going to Haiti to talk to him," she said in an interview.

"I think we in Caricom must try to learn about him and try to understand him. We must try to know where he is going and try not to force him, but to influence him in our discussions and in the way we do things."

She asserted it would be wrong for Caricom (Caribbean Community) to accept Barbados' suggestion of a cut-off of ties with Haiti, saying she couldn't see how such a step could be justified when Caricom maintained relations with former President for Life Jean Claude "Baby Doc" Duvalier.

Barbados proposed the move as a way of pressuring its government into democratic reforms.

"I accept that every country must decide what its relations with Haiti should be, but for Caricom I think we should continue the relationship we have already established," said the Dominica leader.

"If we could have it under Duvalier how can we now say we can't have it under the man who followed him. At least Mr. Manigat had a portion of the people of Haiti say they want him as their leader."

Grenada

Plans To Strengthen Police Force Announced *FL192145 Bridgetown CANA in English 1503 GMT 15 Apr 88*

[Text] St. George's, Grenada, April 15, CANA—Grenada, hit by a spate of crime in which four people have been killed thus far this year, has announced plans to strengthen its police force. Education Minister George McGuire told a political rally of [words indistinct] 110,000 people.

The police force will be strengthened, officers will be sent abroad for training, and Grenada will work with our friends to help in the programme to upgrade the force, McGuire said.

He described the current crime situation as totally unacceptable and called for collective action by Grenadians to deal with the problem.

...Politics has absolutely no influence where the nation is threatened, and the people must come together...McGuire added.

He promised that the police force will recruit only quality policemen and policewomen.

Haiti

Taiwan Lends \$4 Million; French To Extend Help *FL192144 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1600 GMT 19 Apr 88*

[Text] Cooperation Minister Gerard Latortue, back from a trip to China [as heard] and France, has disclosed to the press that China has granted Haiti a \$4-million loan at 1 percent interest with a grace period of 10 years. First Lady Mrs Manigat was also on this trip.

In addition, Minister Latortue obtained French Government confirmation that aid will be maintained as planned during a French delegation's recent visit to Port-au-Prince.

Furthermore, the director of financial services of the French Cooperation (?Ministry) is expected to arrive in Port-au-Prince next Monday. This high-ranking French official is coming to Haiti in connection with financial

help with the budget [aide budgétaire] that France is going to extend so the Haitian Government can solve the problem of late payment of salaries.

EEC Planning Mission Arrives for 3-Day Visit *FL142158 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 14 Apr 88*

[Text] According to a press release from the Information Ministry's administration, an EEC planning mission headed by Dr (Emiliano Fossatti), head of the Latin America/Asia Division, arrived in Haiti yesterday, 13 April, for a 3-day visit.

The visit follows talks by Haitian Foreign Minister Gerard R. Latortue with high-ranking EEC officials in Brussels, Belgium.

The mission's objective is to define, together with Haitian authorities, the general and specific steps the EEC should take in Haiti for the next 5 years and to study the ways and means of setting up an aid plan for the recovery of Haiti.

The plan will also include several projects, representing some \$30 million.

Yesterday, this mission held a working meeting at the Foreign Ministry with representatives of several ministries: Foreign Affairs, Commerce, Public Works, Agriculture, Finance, Public Health, Education, and the National Promotion Commission.

Delegation members are to meet with Prime Minister Martial Celestin today at 1100 and they will be received by Haitian President Leslie Manigat at 1400 tomorrow.

Before leaving Haiti, the mission is also to meet with officials from several ministries and with project directors.

PDCH Warns Against Extension of Foreign Aid *FL192044 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 19 Apr 88*

[Text] The Haitian Christian Democratic Party (PDCH) protests all aid to Haiti at present. The PDCH says that the reason is that none of the mechanisms provided for in the Constitution to allow the Haitian people to verify the government's expenditures have ever been set up.

In a press release, the PDCH says that as soon as it learned of the purpose of the EEC delegation's visit to Haiti, it hastened to warn the EEC member countries against giving Haiti any kind of aid at present, because the mechanisms provided for in the Constitution of 1987 to enable the Haitian people to verify the government's expenditures have as yet never been set up. These

mechanisms are based on the Caseses [Administrative Councils for the Communal Sections] and the municipal assemblies, and extend up to the level of interdepartmental assembly.

Second, the PDCH (?says) that since independence, whenever foreign countries want to tolerate corruption in Haiti, they always give the Haitian Government all kinds of grants and loans. This aid is allegedly for the Haitian people, 80 percent of whom are illiterate, 98 percent of whom are hungry, and 98 percent of whom are homeless, in what is the least developed country in the Americas.

The PDCH says that no administrative reform has been effected in Haiti that would make it possible for new structures ensuring the honesty of the administration's operations to gain a foothold. The people keeping the Haitian masses in their deplorable state are still in place, and they seem even stronger than before. Consequently, says the PDCH, it protests this matter of aid being given to Haiti, whether in the form of a gift or a loan, until the institutions provided for in the Constitution to ensure proper handling of the country's funds have been set up.

If despite this warning and these protests, the EEC or any other country continues to give aid to Haiti, it alone will bear responsibility for the consequences resulting from this. Nevertheless, the PDCH says that it remains in favor of all kinds of humanitarian aid destined for the Haitian people through nongovernmental organizations.

The PDCH points out to the general public and to international public opinion that contrary to the EEC's stated intentions to meet with the Haitian opposition, the delegation singled out a few people with whom to meet. These few people were chosen by the delegation itself, according to its own likes.

Country Admitted Into Latin American Parliament
FL182157 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole
in Creole 1600 GMT 18 Apr 88

[Excerpts] Three Haitian parliamentarians refused to attend an official reception in Santo Domingo which was attended by Joaquin Balaguer [president of the Dominican Republic]. The deputies are Willy Debrosse, from Cap Haitien and the North's first senator [name and titles as heard]; Auguste Robinson; and Julio Larosilhere, senator for the South.

This was the parliamentarians' way of protesting the disdain Balaguer exhibits toward Haitians. [passage omitted]

We have also learned that Haiti has been admitted to the Latin American Parliament, to which it had formerly been only an observer.

Disturbances in Petit Goave Over Customs Duties
FL192021 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale
in Creole 1300 GMT 19 Apr 88

[Report by Lionel Felix Beauvais from Petit Goave]

[Text] Peace in Petit Goave seems to have been disturbed because of the brusque methods that the Port-au-Prince customs authorities have come to apply to the vessels in the port of Petit Goave.

This Monday, at around 1530, the delegation of customs employees from Port-au-Prince that was scheduled to arrive on Wednesday of last week finally managed to arrive. The two-member delegation was accompanied by three soldiers.

They began the assigned work of raising taxes, increasing the tax on cars by 50 percent. They also took \$17 in taxes on a bag of rice that costs \$20. This means that in order to make a profit, boat owners would have to sell a bag of rice for as much as \$50. Thus, rice is going to become a luxury for the small consumer, who is going to have to pay \$60 or \$70 for a sack of rice.

The population of Petit Goave involved in this business this Tuesday [as heard] crowded onto the wharf very early in the morning, awaiting the delegation. Many of them said they were born fired, because they have never been employed in their lives. If taxes on boats are too high, thus discouraging the boat owners, their livelihood will be cut off, they say, so they remained stubbornly on the wharf. They said that regardless of what anyone says, the most a sack of rice could be taxed is \$2, or else they would go crazy and run amok.

There were many minor incidents. One of the soldiers even had time to put a round of ammunition in the chamber, but the people leaped forward to attack him. Had it not been for the intervention of Prefect (Lucien Vilarseau), who, after calming the population, ordered Lieutenant (Alci) from Petit Goave to seize the cartridge belt, there would have been a serious incident in Petit Goave.

For their part, the boat owners said that they would begin unloading their merchandise at 0800 this Tuesday, regardless.

This turbulent situation has put the Petit Goave customs director in a bind, because the people are going to support the boat owners so that the merchandise can be unloaded.

Since the delegation is supposed to come back to work again this Tuesday, we will follow things closely and keep you informed.

Jamaica

Minister Reacts to U.S. Allegations on Drugs

FL192156 Bridgetown CANA in English 2221 GMT
15 Apr 88

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, April 15, CANA—Jamaica's attorney-general and minister of justice, Oswald Harding, says the United States needs to be reminded that two-way cooperation was necessary to curb the illegal drug trade and not pressure Caribbean leaders.

"This constant harassment by outside forces against Caribbean leaders is quite unjustifiable," said Harding in reference to allegations in the U.S. that Caribbean leaders were involved in the drugs racket.

The Jamaican minister was participating in CANA radio's "Caribbean Crossfire" programme which dealt with allegations that top officials in the region were connected to the drug trade and the impact of these charges on the region. He was joined by Barbados opposition leader, Henry Forde, and speaker of the Trinidad and Tobago House of Assembly, Nizam Mohammed, in the Thursday night call-in programme.

Harding said in the absence of evidence to substantiate allegations against some Caribbean leaders, they ought to be dismissed and suggested that even those found guilty could have been the victim of "some set up". He said Caribbean people were willing to accept allegations

as accurate but never paid attention to retracting. Harding said the United States seemed to be "running scared" of the drug problem and was turning to exerting pressure on other countries rather than addressing the problems at home.

"I can't believe that a country that is dealing with Star Wars can't have the technology to deal with the sort of things that are going on in its own borders in getting drugs into the U.S.," Harding said.

The Jamaican minister said drug barons have sought to finance political leaders and parties whom they think may be more sympathetic to their operations. He warned that if any Caribbean states got into the hands of traffickers a prime minister could be rendered meaningless since "a government outside the government" could exist.

Harding said the fight against illegal drugs must be continued so that the population of young people would not be destroyed.

He rejected suggestions from a Jamaican-born political scientist, Dr. Neville Duncan, that cocaine and marijuana be legalised saying that easy access to the "evil effect" of drugs would destroy youths.

"We do not have the facilities to deal with people who are addicted to cocaine and so on. We are babes in the woods where that is concerned."

Harding said the Jamaica Government was also "worried" about the infiltration of illegal guns into the country for the drug trade.

Costa Rica

Arias Condemns Attack on U.S. Cultural Center
*PA1904202188 Buenos Aires REUTER in Spanish
1910 GMT 19 Apr 88*

[Text] San Jose, 19 Apr (REUTER)—Costa Rican President Oscar Arias has condemned today's attack on a U.S. cultural center that left five people injured, three seriously.

"Violence generates more violence and terrorism will not resolve the country's problems," he told journalists.

Deputy Security Minister Rogelio Castro Pinto confirmed that the explosion occurred at 0830 (1430 GMT) outside the Costa Rican-U.S. Cultural Center in eastern San Jose.

The three seriously injured people are hospitalized but out of danger, security officials told REUTER. They were identified as Lilian Quesada Solano, a Costa Rican teacher, and Charlin Bertin Badegn and Alice Feider, both U.S. citizens.

President Arias said he will visit all three at the hospital today.

The other injured are Oscar Eric Bogantes and Alvaro Salas Qorras, both Costa Rican students.

Reports broadcast by radio stations said a man was seen getting out of a taxi and placing the bomb under a parked car. However, security officials said later that the explosive was thrown from a moving car.

Castro Pinto said initial reports from the site said that at least three cars had been seriously damaged by the explosion.

Although the president and security officials described the incident as a terrorist attack, U.S. Embassy officials said the explosion was caused by a transformer outside the building.

In spite of the government officials' statements, an embassy official played down the importance of the incident, saying that it was caused by an accident in the electrical system.

Foreign Ministry Official on Panama, C. America
*PA1904214588 San Jose Radio Impacto in Spanish
1830 GMT 18 Apr 88*

[Passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Text] Asked about Costa Rica's position in case it is asked to pressure those fighting in Panama to accept Archbishop McGrath's mediation, Deputy Foreign Relations Minister Rivera Bianchini said Costa Rica has the moral right to use such pressure.

Rivera said: Our role is not to suggest or recommend actions. However, if asked, we will do so. He added that in Panama's case, what has been recommended from the start is the establishment of a democratic regime. He said that even though Panama did not take part in the Esquipulas agreement in August 1987, Costa Rica, as an example of democracy, has the moral right to make recommendations to any country, including Panama. In this regard he said:

[Rivera] "We have sufficient authority, not only because of President Arias' authority, but because he represents Costa Rica. We have sufficient authority to make these types of suggestions. However, we do not want to stick our noses where we should not.

[Reporter] "Don Carlos, do you believe Costa Rica has the moral right to tell any country, including Panama, what to do, or suggest what to do, even though Panama did not take part in the peace plan?

[Rivera] "Of course. We have the right to give opinions or provide criteria, but I repeat: We do not want to stick our noses where we should not. Panama's case is one in which we should not stick our nose. This is a domestic affair of exclusively Panamanian concern. We can give our criteria and outline our positions and principles, but we do not want to tell them what to do."

Rivera Bianchini said that it is not wise to harm our relations with Panama, which historically have been very good.

We have a common border, and this is enough reason to be very cautious, Rivera Bianchini concluded. We should be satisfied with the progress resulting from the peace plan in the Central American countries, which have begun to understand that aid to guerrilla groups must be eliminated, not only by the United States, who aids them publicly, but also by those countries who do so surreptitiously, the deputy minister said.

[Rivera] "President Arias has relayed this to those countries that have surreptitiously helped guerrillas and governments build strong armies, not for protecting themselves against their neighbors, but for the sake of building large armies. He has also indicated that those countries should eliminate that type of aid to guerrilla groups."

Rivera said that the Soviet attitude of conditioning the disarmament requested by President Arias to nonmeddling by the United States can be described as disappointing and uncooperative. However, he added that a positive note had been achieved with the USSR: In the reply to President Arias, the USSR admitted that it is giving the Sandinists continuous military assistance, something it had denied for a long time.

Regarding the Soviet's reply, the deputy foreign minister said:

[Rivera] "The USSR's reply was a bit disappointing as it is conditioned to a U.S. Government halt in aid, not only to the contras, but to the Honduran and, primarily, Salvadoran Governments. If this U.S. Government aid stops, the USSR will stop giving the Nicaraguan Government military assistance—assistance that had been repeatedly denied in the past and now has been publicly admitted."

CPSU's Gorbachev Responds to Arias Letter

PA1904162988 San Jose LA REPUBLICA in Spanish
10 Apr 88 p 4

["Text" of letter from Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, to President Oscar Arias; date not given]

[Text] Your letter to M. S. Gorbachev on the situation in Central America contains some statements that the Soviet party cannot accept. However, we do not wish to engage in a controversy, because we believe that an explanation of our stand on those issues would be more useful.

Since the very beginning, the Soviet Union has supported the peacekeeping efforts of the Contadora and Support Group countries. It pronounced itself firmly and resolutely in support of the Guatemala agreements and stated its position that the conflicts in the region should be resolved by the Latin American countries, without any kind of foreign interference, based on the balance of interests and a staunch respect for the right of each country to select its own path of development. Seeking to contribute to creating the favorable conditions for the Guatemala agreements to be fulfilled, the Soviet Union addressed the United States with the proposal of mutually ending the supply of weapons (except for the ammunition used by police forces) to the Central American countries.

Mutual understanding has not been achieved yet on this topic, but not through any fault of ours. The United States does not even want to hear any mention of any reduction in the U.S. supply of arms to Honduras and El Salvador, alleging "obligations" to those countries. Furthermore, in an ostentatious manner, it is delivering its modern combat aircraft to Honduras to increase its military presence in that country, which serves as a principal "contra" base. Can we ask Nicaragua to accept unilateral disarmament on these terms?

The Soviet Union is willing to assume, on the basis of reciprocity with the United States, the commitment to respect and rigorously fulfill the agreements related to matters of security and control and limitation of armaments, in the event the Central American countries achieve these commitments within the framework of the Contadora process. We envision the United States encouraging the holding of negotiations provided for in the Guatemala agreements and securing agreements to reduce the level of warlike confrontation in the region.

Regarding the statement that the Soviet Union supplies arms to the rebel forces in El Salvador and Guatemala, we emphatically deny it.

In Moscow credit is given to the constructive contribution of Costa Rica and its president, in person, to achieving the Guatemala agreements. We hope Costa Rica will continue its efforts to fulfill these agreements for establishing peace in Central America.

We are sure that a peaceful settlement is possible in this region. However, in addition to good will and political determination, it also requires a responsible and constructive overview of the resolution of the real problems of the region.

[No signature block as published]

El Salvador

Military Commanders Condemn Ochoa Statement

PA1904154688 San Salvador Canal Doce Television
in Spanish 0300 GMT 19 Apr 88

[Text] Tonight the Salvadoran Armed Forces categorically rejected and condemned a statement made last Friday by discharged Colonel Sigifredo Ochoa Perez that was regarded as an attack on the military.

In his statement, Col Ochoa Perez hinted at a call for insurrection and criticized Defense Minister General Carlos Eugenio Vides Casanova.

In a communique, the Armed Forces said Ochoa Perez' statement was irresponsible and tendentious, and contrary to the unity and discipline that soldiers should always maintain. In the document, all garrison commanders, security corps general directors, and commanders of military branches and offices gave a vote of confidence and their full support to the Army's High Command.

The officers' communique added: We approve of the Armed Forces High Command's position of not meddling in matters unrelated to their constitutional mission.

Guatemala

Opposition Leaders Comment on Arrests

PA1904203788 Guatemala City Teleonce Television
in Spanish 0400 GMT 19 Apr 88

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] A news conference was held in a hotel in Guatemala City after Rigoberta Menchu and Rolando Castillo Montalvo were released. Together with other opposition leaders and personalities who came with them to Guatemala, Menchu and Castillo commented on the events surrounding their arrest. They said their arrest was unconstitutional. [passage omitted]

During their news conference, Menchu and Castillo referred to the size of the police operation set up to capture them.

[Begin Castillo recording] The security operation was impressive. It was as if we had brought two nuclear bombs in our pockets. In addition, the press was deceived because a person was presented who allegedly was Rigoberta Menchu. In fact, we were taken out through another door. We were put in a car and taken out across the landing strip to a place that I cannot identify. We were taken to the Supreme Court. [sentence as heard] We were brought before a judge. He asked us our names. We then told him we were not going to make a statement until our local and international lawyers arrived. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Rigoberta Menchu asked to speak in Quiche to the people from her area. She said she was surprised by the way they were received in Guatemala. [passage omitted]

[Begin Menchu recording] With regards to my case, one would have to begin by stating that we came with great enthusiasm and joy after being away. I was very surprised to have been arrested as happened to Comrade Rolando. He was ahead of me, and I was watching. Perhaps they thought I was stronger because they put six policeman around me. Since they were pulling me, I had to tell them I was not going to escape so they should not worry. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Bomb Explodes at Mexican Airline Offices

PA1904230588 Mexico City Red Nacional 13
Imevision Television in Spanish 1955 GMT 19 Apr 88

[Text] Last night a bomb exploded outside the Mexicana de Aviacion airline offices in downtown Guatemala City. The bomb caused only minor damage.

Guatemalan police said the bomb was thrown from the street by unidentified people in a car. According to local political analysts, the attack has the hallmarks of the White Hand, an extreme right-wing organization. Police sources added that the bombing might be related to yesterday's return to Guatemala of four political exiles belonging to the United Representation of the Guatemalan Opposition.

Democratic Civic Front Registered as Party

PA1904224888 Guatemala City EL GRAFICO
in Spanish 16 Apr 88 p 4

[Text] The Democratic Civic Front [Frente Civico Democratico] (FDC-5), after complying with the legal requirements for the third time, has again been registered as a legal entity. It lost this status because it did not run its own presidential candidate in the last general elections, when it supported current President Vinicio Cerezo.

Due to Secretary General Danilo Barillas' desire to leave his post, the majority of the party's national and regional leaders decided to form a "united ticket" headed by Rolando Pineda Lam, who is now president of the FDC-5 Political Council.

The FDC-5, which continues to support President Cerezo, will again not participate independently in the forthcoming municipal elections, instead supporting the Christian Democratic candidates and participating in some of the latter's tickets. The FDC-5's principal activities at present are keeping the organization together and constantly alerting the people about national problems.

New Health Minister Gehlert Takes Office

PA2004010088 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE
in Spanish 16 Apr 88 p 12

[Text] Yesterday Dr Carlos Armando Gehlert Mata took over as public health and social welfare minister, replacing Dr Armando Soto Gomez, who had been in office since the beginning of this Christian Democratic administration.

Luis Felipe Lemus, secretary general of the Presidency, read agreement No 52-88, which contains the appointment of the new minister, and subsequently administered the oath of office in the name of the president to Gehlert Mata. Dr Carlos Armando Soto Gomez transferred the seal of office to the new public health minister.

In his first meeting with journalists, Gehlert Mata said that he will continue national health plan policies, but that there will be a change of strategy to invigorate the health programs to benefit the Guatemalan population.

He emphasized that the press will be given every opportunity to fulfill its function, and he asked the communications media to cooperate in the promotion of his ministry's tasks.

Gehlert Mata said that his first news conference will be held in his office at 1000 on Wednesday, 20 April 1988.

The swearing-in ceremony was attended by Drs Mario Remberto Moran Garcia and Pablo Werner Ramirez Rivas, both deputy health ministers.

Immediately after the ceremony, Gehlert Mata went to the Presidential Palace to join a cabinet session in progress.

Honduras

Regalado Reiterates Support for Azcona

PA1904215188 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network
in Spanish 1812 GMT 16 Apr 88

[Speech by Armed Forces Commander General Humberto Regalado Hernandez during ceremony to commemorate the 18th anniversary of the 1st Artillery Battalion in Zambrano, Francisco Morazan Department, on 16 April—recorded]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] We emphatically want to state that the unity of the Honduran Armed Forces is unquestionable, and those voicing hatred and resentment will not shake its sound foundations. Statements by

the irresponsible will find no room in the minds of [words indistinct], despite any systematic campaign they may implement, despite the poisonous articles by some columnists, despite the cowardly slander by some reporters who use as an excuse the right to keep sources confidential, and despite the poisonous sting by some [words indistinct] who have even had the nerve to try to ridicule something so sacred for us as the pride of wearing a military uniform.

Because of the increasing campaign of discredit and disinformation launched at the international level [words indistinct] by local defamers against Armed Forces officers, which seeks to destabilize this irreplaceable foundation of the democratic system, we openly demand the proof and evidence on which the slanderous reports have been based. Such evidence should be presented responsibly and honestly so the aforementioned reports will no longer be [words indistinct] or slanders seeking to irresponsibly discredit and tarnish the Armed Forces.

We hereby reaffirm our unyielding decision to struggle against all threats that may disturb the normal development of a society that wishes and intends to live in peace and calm and that provides the suitable conditions for the people's development based on the principles of common welfare, safety, and peace. These conditions can never be provided by vice or crime, and much less by narcoterrorists.

I want to take this opportunity—during this in-house celebration—to send a cordial, respectful greeting on behalf of the Armed Forces to President Jose Simon Azcona, commander general of our Armed Forces. We also wish to reiterate that we will never neglect our duties or abandon the duties that patriotism demands from us. This is because the interest of the fatherland is beyond any other consideration, especially at times when solidarity is a fundamental duty. Congratulations, distinguished servicemen. On this 18th anniversary, I want to tell you that you should feel very proud of the responsibility the High Command has entrusted you with. Bestowed with the attribute of loyalty, you are in the front line of honor and sacrifice to guarantee the peaceful coexistence of a noble, hardworking people.

Thank you very much.

Nicaragua

Obando Threatens To Resign From Talks Role
PA2004024788 Buenos Aires REUTER in Spanish
0122 GMT 20 Apr 88

[Text] Managua, 19 Apr (REUTER)—Today in a telegram addressed to Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega Saavedra, Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo threatened to resign as a witness to the negotiations between the Sandinist government and the contra rebels.

In the message, couched in emphatic terms, the high-ranking prelate of the Catholic Church complains that this morning Radio Sandino, the official mouthpiece of the ruling FSLN, charged that Obando y Bravo is the spiritual adviser of the contra rebels and, as such, is "an accomplice to crimes and the murder of old people and children."

According to the text of the telegram read this afternoon over Radio Catolica, Cardinal Obando y Bravo told President Ortega: "It has surprised us that in an irresponsible and slanderous manner, a visceral attack has been launched on one of the two witnesses of the Sapoa peace pact, the hope of fulfillment of our people's desire for peace.

"We express to Your Excellency our firm protest, since the attack in question does not contribute to the necessary climate of peace. At the same time, we would like to know if it is the opinion of Your Excellency's government that we have been responsible for crimes and the murder of children and old people.

"If this is the case, we could not continue either as a member of the National Reconciliation Commission or as a witness and guarantor; we would have to give up that function immediately," the telegram states.

The radio station said that Cardinal Obando y Bravo is waiting for President Ortega's reply in order to "take the necessary steps."

It added that a copy of the telegram was sent to Joao Baena Soares, OAS secretary general, and to the other witnesses of the peace agreements.

Ortega Says Bermudez Threatened Contra Leaders
PA1904135988 Managua Domestic Service
in Spanish 1200 GMT 19 Apr 88

[Text] Yesterday Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega said: We are not in these negotiations because we are weak. We are not in these negotiations because we are afraid. On the contrary, we are in these negotiations because we are strong and because we know that, one way or another, total victory is ours. He was giving a report on the talks with the contras in a rally with the people at Revolution Square. The president warned the people that Guardsman Enrique Bermudez had threatened to annihilate the contra leaders if they signed the cease-fire and accepted the methods of operations in the negotiations held from 15 to 18 April. Daniel Ortega voiced his concern that the contra chieftains will return to Managua to break the Sapoa agreements under pressure from Bermudez' threats and from Washington. The president said: Then, the people must muster all their strength to defeat the guardsmen and U.S. policies. At one point in his speech, the comrade president said the following:

[Begin Ortega recording] It is not a matter of ending the war. It is a matter of giving an opportunity to individuals who have been involved in counterrevolutionary activities to participate in our country's political life. This is not an easy decision. It is not an easy matter to make this decision. A lot of blood has been shed in Nicaragua. We are not going to deny that the U.S. Government and President Reagan bear the chief responsibility for sponsoring this policy of murder and terror against Nicaragua. We are also not going to deny that the so-called contra leaders bear a responsibility. Although they have not directly participated in any terrorist action in our country, they have become accomplices of those crimes. [Words indistinct] all those who have participated in terrorist activities against the Nicaraguan people.

As a Sandinist commando unit said when it took over a Somozist [words indistinct], in a phrase that has become well-known: We Sandinists are implacable in combat and generous in victory. [applause] Our brother Comrade Tomas Borge participated in the drafting of that communique [not further identified]. Tomas spontaneously uttered that phrase. Tomas has always been in the blood of the people and in the blood of the FSLN. [end recording]

17 April Government Cease-Fire Proposal
PA1904171588 *Managua BARRICADA in Spanish*
18 Apr 88 p 3

["Proposal" submitted by the Nicaraguan Government to the Nicaraguan Resistance (RN) in Managua on 17 April]

[Text] Agreement Between the Constitutional Government of Nicaragua and the RN on a Definitive Cease-Fire [subhead]

The constitutional Government of the Republic of Nicaragua:

As a sign of its commitment with the Nicaraguan people to continue promoting a pluralistic and participative system, which will entail promoting social justice, respect for human rights, the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Nicaraguan territory, and the rights of Nicaraguans to choose freely and without any kind of foreign meddling, their economic, political, and social systems;

Determined to continue improving a democratic, representative, and pluralistic system that will guarantee the system of political parties and the effective participation of the people in the decisionmaking process and ensure free access of various beliefs in honest and periodic elections that are based on the full observance of the rights of Nicaraguan citizens;

Committed to further the creation of the conditions inherent in every democracy;

Together with the RN is:

Fully aware of the Nicaraguan people's desire for peace;

Aware that peace is the supreme value of all people and the indispensable prerequisite for development;

Also aware that without development it is impossible to improve and consolidate a democratic, pluralistic, and participative system;

Accepting the historic challenge of forging a destiny of peace for Nicaragua;

Committed to striving for peace and eradicating war;

Therefore:

The constitutional Government of Nicaragua and the RN met in Managua, the capital of Nicaragua, on 15, 16, 17, and 18 April 1988 in order to agree on a definitive cease-fire and end the war. This was done within the spirit of and in compliance with the Esquipulas II agreement as well as the agreement signed in Sapoa on 23 March in the presence of His Eminence Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo and His Excellency Ambassador Joao Baena Soares, OAS secretary general.

The constitutional Government of Nicaragua and the RN agree:

1. To end the war in a total and definitive manner for the sake of peace, unity, and national reconciliation. They agree to meet the deadlines contained in this agreement for the process of reintegrating all members of the RN's unconventional forces into peaceful activities. In order to comply with this agreement, the cessation of offensive military operations in Nicaraguan territory between the Nicaraguan Government and the RN's unconventional forces, which was agreed upon in Sapoa on 23 March 1988, is extended for 30 more days, until 1 July 1988.

Relocation Zones [subhead]

2. The constitutional Government of Nicaragua will, within a 7-day period beginning on 19 April 1988 and ending on 25 April 1988, conclude the relocation of its troops and security forces from the zones in which the RN forces will be located. The zones are marked on the attached map, which is an integral part of this agreement.

The RN forces will then move to the aforementioned zones within 20 days, beginning on 25 April 1988 and ending on 15 May 1988.

3. The government's military personnel mentioned in the above point, as well as their vehicles, boats, and aircraft, will abstain from entering the specified zones

during the period in which military operations are suspended, except for cases previously agreed to by the joint commissions established in Article 17 of this agreement, or in emergencies.

4. The Nicaraguan Government will, in accordance with its legal powers, and in compliance with the terms of this agreement, fully respect the freedom, security, and physical and moral welfare of the RN forces located in the specified zones.

5. The RN forces will enter the agreed upon zones with a complete supply of weapons, ammunition, and communication equipment; and they will keep all their military equipment during the specified period of time.

6. The EPS and the RN forces will not qualitatively or quantitatively increase their military presence in the specified zones and in surrounding areas.

7. The joint commissions will try to neutralize mines and other explosive devices throughout the specified zones and in surrounding areas to guarantee security and implement this agreement.

8. Basic services provided by the Nicaraguan Government in the specified zones will continue to be provided normally.

9. In order to prevent incidents in the specified zones during the period established in Article 1, which concludes on 1 July 1988, the Nicaraguan Government will abstain from deploying artillery pieces in an area within their maximum range. Likewise, the Nicaraguan Government will abstain from carrying out military activities near the specified zones.

10. The Verification Commission, created in the 23 March Sapoa agreement, will have 7 days, between 16 and 22 May, to ascertain the location, number, and identity of the RN members in the specified zones.

Supply of Humanitarian Aid [subhead]

11. As soon as the Verification Commission certifies that the irregular forces are in the zones, the Nicaraguan Government will grant all possible facilities for the supply of humanitarian aid to the aforementioned forces, in accordance with point 4 of the Sapoa agreement.

The International Red Cross will be appointed as the organization in charge of humanitarian aid.

In order to guarantee the aforementioned supplies, the Nicaraguan Government and the International Red Cross will set up methods for the prompt delivery of humanitarian aid.

Humanitarian aid will be delivered exclusively to RN members who have settled in the aforementioned zones, and who are therefore in the process of reintegrating into

the country's normal life. According to point 4 of the Sapoa and Esquipulas II agreements, and international law, RN members who remain armed in neighboring countries may not receive any aid.

12. The controls on the supply of humanitarian aid that the Verification Commission will establish will be in force:

a. At departure points;

b. En route;

c. At destination points.

13. Once the humanitarian aid has been delivered, the RN will be fully responsible for all matters regarding the distribution of the aid to its forces within the zones.

14. The International Red Cross will periodically present to the Nicaraguan Government, well in advance, the proper land, air, sea, or other type of transportation schedule; the frequency and identification of the means of transportation; the checkpoints en route; and the date and time of supply deliveries. Nicaraguan Government authorities will guarantee, within its jurisdiction, the expeditious flow of the shipments.

Communication and Access Facilities [subhead]

15. Movement and communication between zones by the RN chiefs or members of irregular forces will be conducted with the consent of the joint commissions, and once the commissions have approved them the movements and communications will occur with the support of the authorities and under the protection of the Verification Commission. The land routes among the zones are indicated on the map included in Annex No 1.

16. Due to the need to have continuous and permanent communications to ensure the command and control of the RN forces, the Nicaraguan Government promises not to disturb or interfere at all with RN radio communications.

Joint Commissions [subhead]

17. Joint commissions will be established in each zone. They will be made up of a maximum of five representatives from the constitutional Government of Nicaragua and the RN. The Verification Commission representatives will act as witnesses of the work done by the joint commissions.

The duties of the joint commissions will be to implement the agreements until 1 July 1988 and to resolve the problems linked to these agreements that may emerge in each zone.

18. According to the terms of this agreement, the following places of reference are established for each zone:

For Zone 1: Quilali

For Zone 2: San Jose de Bocay

For Zone 3: Kuskawas

For Zone 4: La Pinuela

For Zone 5: La Fonseca

For Zone 6: Bitwaskarma

For Zone 7: Alambikamba

In these places of reference, both the joint commissions and the Verification Commission will operate.

Guarantees for Civilians [subhead]

19. The residents of the areas from where the RN forces will withdraw and the residents who were involved in the activities conducted by the RN irregular forces will not be "judged, sanctioned, or persecuted for the political activities they may have undertaken."

The Verification Commission will see to it that this point is strictly enforced.

20. Beginning on 1 June 1988, as the return to civilian life of the RN forces zone by zone is completed, those who have been displaced from their land because of the war may freely return to their places of origin within those zones and enjoy full guarantees.

21. The Nicaraguan Government will guarantee access to the zones by the relatives of the members of the irregular forces who may be within those zones. Likewise, access will be guaranteed to medical and paramedical personnel, merchants, representatives of neutral organizations, and humanitarian, cultural, and religious institutions, and to the national and international press. The joint commissions will establish the method of access for these purposes.

22. Nicaraguan citizens living in those zones will continue to enjoy the rights the Constitution and the laws of the Republic grant its citizens. In accordance with this principle, the government will guarantee the supply of goods, and the freedom of movement, work, and trade to civilians who may be in those zones, as well as communication and transportation to promote their economy. The life, property, and activities of civilians, as well as government property in the zones, may not be harmed in any way.

The Nicaraguan Government will maintain for each zone banking mechanisms and facilities for the normal payment of goods and services.

Amnesty [subhead]

23. Once the Verification Commission confirms settlement in the zones, the Nicaraguan Government, following legal procedures, will promulgate no later than 20 May 1988 the amnesty decree mentioned in Paragraph 2, Provision (3), of the Sapoa Agreement, which states: "At the time the RN forces' entrance into the mutually agreed upon zones is verified, 50 percent of the prisoners will be released."

24. Once the RN forces' return to civilian life in the first four zones is completed according to the timetable in provision 27—which should be confirmed by the Verification Commission—the Nicaraguan Government will promulgate the amnesty decree on 13 June. In accordance with Provision (3) of the Sapoa agreement, the decree will benefit the remaining 50 percent of "those processed for and convicted of violating the Law on Maintenance of Order and Public Security."

25. Prisoners mentioned at the end of the first paragraph of Provision (3) of the Sapoa agreement will be released upon the signing of this agreement, following instructions from the OAS Inter-American Human Rights Commission.

Incorporation Into the National Dialogue [subhead]

26. Once the Verification Commission has confirmed the location of RN irregular forces in the zones, representatives of the political organizations comprising the RN will join the national dialogue in accordance with Provision (6) of the Sapoa agreement.

Process of Reintegration Into Civilian Life [subhead]

27. The process of reincorporating RN irregular forces into civilian life will take place from 1 June to 1 July 1988 in a progressive manner, one zone at a time, in accordance with the following timetable:

Zone No 1: from 1 to 4 June

Zone No 2: from 5 to 8 June

Zone No 3: from 9 to 12 June

Zone No 4: from 13 to 16 June

Zone No 5: from 17 to 20 June

Zone No 6: from 21 to 24 June

Zone No 7: from 25 to 27 June

The RN forces' reincorporation into normal life will take place through the amnesty and the delivery of war materiel currently held by the RN. Both procedures will be confirmed by the Verification Commission.

28. The Resistance's war materiel will be turned over to the Verification Commission. When the arms are turned over, the Nicaraguan Government will certify, by means of a document, that the individual members of the Resistance will incorporate themselves into normal life, and will consequently fully enjoy the rights and guarantees established by the Constitution and other laws of the country.

29. The war materiel that is surrendered will be deposited for 1 year with the Verification Commission. The final disposition of this materiel will be decided in accordance with point 7 of the Esquipulas II agreement, on the points to be discussed within the framework of Contadora regarding security, control, and limitation of arms in Central America.

30. The irregular forces that are outside the agreed-upon zones after 15 May, because they do not agree with the present agreement and the Sapoa agreement, will not enjoy the benefits and guarantees established in these agreements.

31. The Verification Commission will certify the adherence to the present agreement.

The constitutional Government of Nicaragua and the Nicaraguan Resistance will offer every available facility so the Verification Commission may conduct its job with absolute freedom.

In case of any disagreement, the Verification Commission will decide on the final interpretation of this agreement or on cases not resolved by the joint commissions.

The Verification Commission will notify the Nicaraguan Government and the Resistance of its requirements to fulfill these agreements.

This agreement is signed in accordance with the desire for a firm and lasting peace by the Nicaraguan people, whose most respected standards are national independence, sovereignty, democracy, and the struggle to continue to choose, in unrestricted freedom, their own political, economic, and social system.

This agreement is a historic contribution to regional peace, independence, and cooperation in Central America.

In witness whereof, the undersigned sign the present agreement in four original copies.

Managua 18 April 1988

Ramirez 'Optimistic' on Talks With Contras
LD171629 Madrid Domestic Service in Spanish
0700 GMT 17 Apr 88

[Interview with Vice President Sergio Ramirez by unidentified reporter "in Spain"—live]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] [Reporter] Vice President of Nicaragua Sergio Ramirez is in Spain and he is at this moment speaking to the RNE news bulletin "Spain at Nine." Good Day, Mr Ramirez.

[Ramirez] Good Day, and hello to the Spanish people.

[Reporter] Thank you very much, Mr Vice President. We would like to ask you what news you have about this first meeting in Managua between the Sandinists and the contras. Has progress, in fact, been made at this first meeting, according to your information?

[Ramirez] I believe that we are at a very early stage in the negotiations to assess whether matters have progressed or regressed. I would say that there has been significant progress. [Words indistinct] progress [words indistinct] the meeting [words indistinct] with the continuation of the agreements which were reached in Sapoa. I believe we must reach some kind of agreement at this new meeting. Remember that at the Sapoa meeting of the technical commissions no agreement was reached on the modus operandi and the definition [words indistinct] the concentration of the irregular forces which [words indistinct] at the meeting taking place now at the highest level in Managua, and it is just that the matter of the modus operandi for the integration of the irregular forces in the area has first to be (?settled), so we are optimistic, we have hope, that at the end of this day of talks we will have reached a new kind of agreement. One must not forget that it is a complicated process. Any process of negotiation for the end of a war is always complicated. After 8 years of hostilities we are going to have difficulties, but these difficulties will be resolved.

[Reporter] Do you believe, Mr Vice President, that the end of the war will be the final product of these negotiations—the agreement on the final cease-fire?

[Ramirez] This is our aim. This is the objective which we have set at these negotiations. We do not want to think in other terms. The resumption of hostilities at the end of the 60 days agreed upon would be a further tragedy for Nicaragua, for the Nicaraguans. We do not believe this should happen, and we believe that with a truly independent will both sides must manage to consolidate this peace agreement, which has a logical conclusion, and this is the cessation of the war and the reincorporation of those irregular forces into the normal, peaceful civilian life of Nicaragua, as is laid down in the Esquipulas agreements.

[Reporter] Mr Vice President of Nicaragua, in the report sent to us from Managua we heard about the disappearance of the political reasons for the hostilities which the Nicaraguan Resistance is setting as a condition for further progress. Does the Sandinist government intend to take new steps in this regard?

[Ramirez] I believe that in this matter, which is so flexible, so changeable, we can enter into shifting grounds by talking about when a process of democratization is perfect and so, as it is a process, it is a matter of time. I do not think that in any European country one can yet speak of having already achieved perfection in the democratic process, so on this matter it is better to refer not to the opinion of the Nicaraguan Government, which can easily say or believe that an acceptable level of democratization has been achieved in this process, but to the opinion of the National Reconciliation Commission chaired by Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo, which was set up to testify to, to verify the advances, which each Central American country must make in the process laid down by Esquipulas. [passage omitted]

Central Bank Approves Cordoba Devaluation
PA1904193488 Managua El NUEVO DIARIO in
Spanish 17 Apr 88 pp 1, 8

[Text] The Central Bank of Nicaragua and the Nicaraguan Government agreed to increase the exchange rate with regards to the dollar by 10 percent. The official exchange rate will now be 11 cordobas per U.S. dollar.

A communique released by the Central Bank signed by Joaquin Cuadra Chamorro states that because the government has decided to have a flexible exchange policy to allow for periodic adjustments to prevent the overvaluation of the cordoba, it has decided to change the official exchange rate to 11 cordobas per U.S. dollar beginning on 15 April 1988 [date as received].

Since the monetary reform was initiated, the new official cordoba exchange rate has been questioned by private producers, who export agriculture products, mainly coffee, cotton, and beef, because they argue that when international prices are converted into cordobas at the official exchange rate, their earnings are lower than their production costs.

The Business Exchange House [La Casa Negocios de Cambio] has been purchasing dollars at 10.25 cordobas each and selling dollars at 10.75 cordobas each since the monetary reform was implemented. Before the Central Bank communique was released, it was unknown what the new prices would be.

The exchange rate set by the government when the monetary reform was initiated is the same for exports and imports.

Panama

FUP Leader on Agreements Reached at Dialogue
PA1904222888 Panama City Domestic Service
in Spanish 1744 GMT 18 Apr 88

[Report on statement by Hector Aleman, secretary general of the National Federation of Associations and Organizations of Public Employees (FENASEP) and coordinator of the People's Unity Front (FUP), during a FUP news conference; date, place not given]

[Text] Panamanian peoples' organizations, political parties, and representatives of the executive branch and the Defense Forces [FDP] currently participating in the national dialogue have agreed on several topics relating to the resolution of the country's social, political, and economic problems.

Hector Aleman, FENASEP secretary general and coordinator of the FUP, said that those participating in the dialogue reached a consensus concerning topics that would lead to a resolution of the crisis.

FUP held a news conference and assessed their agreements intended to lead to a resolution of the Panamanian crisis. Here are Aleman's statements during the news conference:

[Begin Aleman recording] We are ready to give you advance notice of some of the agreements we reached. The dialogue covered important aspects dealing with an immediate resolution of the crisis. Those aspects have been presented and approved in accordance with the medium- and long-term perspectives on reaching a definite resolution of our problems.

We have, for example, agreed on a formula to guarantee a resolution of the problem of a lack of cash in our economy caused by the U.S. pressure and boycott we are facing. Each of you should have a copy of the resolution so you can read that this agreement clearly presents through its text and appendices the formula to immediately face the lack of currency circulation and the lack of a money supply, which is needed by society to fulfill its basic needs—and I mean the entire society.

Likewise, we have all agreed to support the resolution on measures and strategies to be implemented in order to guarantee the supply of those basic products that the people need. We consider this resolution a very responsible mechanism. The resources of the central government and decentralized organizations will guarantee the only goal of this resolution: to permanently supply basic products. This resolution also calls for a permanent mechanism to prevent speculation and the hoarding of basic products during these times of crisis. This is a measure that our people have been waiting for, and it is one of the specific results of the national dialogue.

Regarding the truce—I believe you have all received a copy of our document—we all agreed that it was necessary to reiterate to the Panamanian people, especially to those who have refused to sit down to talk and to find an adequate solution to the crisis experienced by our country and to those who are only interested in power, that they should all participate in the dialogue called by the people's movement.

I also wish to inform you that during the FUP's plenary session, scheduled to begin on Wednesday, we will discuss immediate and specific solutions to the problems affecting the Panamanian people. At that time, our political commission will study other important matters, such as Law 20 of the Defense Forces and the proposals presented regarding solutions to the problem that some sectors have with Commander Noriega. We will also discuss the matter of a new national unity government and the implementation of the specific recommendations that result from the national dialogue. We will also discuss the issue involving the media and the proposal for the reopening of the media, as requested by the Panamanian people.

We hereby reiterate our call to the opposition parties and groups that have not agreed to join in the national dialogue to come and discuss these matters with us. We feel that these and other important matters must be discussed among Panamanians in order to find a Panamanian solution and not a solution imported from a foreign country. In conclusion, it is also important to state that it is important that the political commission study a moratorium of payments on loans, mortgages, and so on for a 1-year period. [end recording]

Arias Calderon on Dialogue, 'Disaster'
PA2004022088 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE
PANAMA in Spanish 19 Apr 88 pp A-1, A-3

[Quotation marks as published]

[Text] Recognizing the need for the Panama Defense Forces [FDP] to participate in a national reconstruction and, therefore, in a great national dialogue to seek formulas for resolving the country's political, social, and economic crisis, a high-ranking spokesman for the Christian Democratic Party [PDC] and member of the National Civic Crusade said that "one can begin to see an agreement between the civilian forces and the military, which will result in a serious and realistic stand for the FDP."

PDC President Ricardo Arias Calderon made these statements to LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA, and, in his capacity as a high-ranking Christian Democratic leader and member of the Civic Crusade, he reiterated some of the stands announced by his party. He also voiced serious concern over the country's future. He outlined some of the problems that are affecting the "dialogue," and he emphasized that the people, society, would recognize the role of the FDP General Staff in the dialogue.

He pointed out the obstacles and he warned about radical stands and about threats from the left and from communism, which are taking advantage of this tremendous problem affecting all Panamanians. He was very specific when he explained that, in this dialogue, there is one main part: the concepts of the Crusade; and a counterpart: General Noriega and the FDP officers.

"The officers must also participate in this negotiation," he said. "The military set up this regime. They must participate...in the search for a change, for formulas for a solution through a nonviolent dialogue," Arias Calderon said.

He emphatically insisted that any attempt at mediation or a search for a solution that will evade these two parts (the Crusade, Gen Noriega, and the officers) will not lead to anything...and we have evidence of that."

Arias Calderon indirectly referred to a suggested dialogue among leftist groups, which are considered a minority by some sectors, and said that it is necessary to find a solution to three basic problems:

- 1) Noriega's departure "as soon as possible;"
- 2) The new FDP leadership and the new role it should play in society; and
- 3) How to form a democratizing civilian government.

In order to achieve this, he said, I am willing to make sacrifices, and so is the PDC, "in the same way that the people have done."

The Christian Democratic leader said: "If the people have made sacrifices, it is necessary for politicians to make some legitimate sacrifices. We must all give up political rights in order to reply in some way to the sacrifice the people are making and so there will be no obstacle."

Speaking in a conciliatory tone, Arias Calderon emphasized: "If only" Gen Noriega and the General Staff and officers were to consider the two alternatives they have.

He said that one of these alternatives is not to commit themselves to an institutional solution and democratization, and, therefore, "they could then expect a continuation of the people's rejection and the continuation of repression of relatives and friends...and to share in the disaster and catastrophe of the country."

Another one of the problems they would face would be the threat of further violent divisions and institutional disintegration, Arias Calderon pointed out.

On the other hand, he pointed out: "If they commit themselves [to an institutional solution and democratization], they will win the respect of the people, of Panamanians, and the gratitude of having reached the only possible solution."

He added: "They, along with their relatives and friends, would free themselves from the catastrophe, and they would save the institution and their posts."

According to Arias Calderon, this could lead to a serious solution and to a recognition of the military's concern, while allowing them to abide by the promotion roster.

Arias Calderon explained that with the word "catastrophe," he meant to say that the way things are going, this country is heading toward a catastrophe.

Referring to the cost of the current crisis, he said it was becoming worse all the time. "We have gone from crisis to disaster, and we are heading toward a catastrophe."

He said that the economic and social deterioration is quite evident and that the public sector is at a standstill or heading in that direction. He insisted that health services are operating at 50-percent capacity, and he added:

"Education is at a standstill, and the time that is lost cannot be recovered."

"Unemployment is over 25 percent, and 30 percent is expected. There is a dramatic increase in the number of families that have no resources," he said, adding that Caritas [a Catholic relief organization] is doing an extraordinary task but is only reaching a limited number of those affected.

Arias Calderon emphasized that this political conflict is affecting the identity and image of the country itself, "which has been jeopardized." He attributed this responsibility to the regime's policy of "increasing provocations," which Arias Calderon feels are leading to increasing reactions from the United States.

He observed that "this then leads to more talk about an intervention," adding he was worried that "out of despair, many people are considering this as a hope."

Arias Calderon emphasized that "this gives us an idea of the threat to our identity. The fact this is being considered shows us the degree to which Noriega's continuation in power is harming the nation."

Arias Calderon pointed out that "if we closely examine this disaster, we can see we are heading toward a catastrophe." He added that "there is an awareness" for seeking and achieving a solution. Asked why a solution has not been found, he listed two obstacles:

1) Radical Marxist sectors want the crisis to take Panama to a catastrophe.

The Marxist sectors, which have had a very minute representation in the elections, had limited goals until just a short while ago, and they did not even think it was possible to make any change in the country's structure. "Now they are beginning to think they have the opportunity to make that change," Arias Calderon said.

"I think the people are noticing that Noriega's stay in power is somewhat similar to the stay of Somoza and Batista. The effect is destruction," he pointed out. He added, however, that "there are different conditions, as there is not a civil war here."

He insisted that society is being destroyed in Panama and that there are sectors that think this is the historic opportunity for a communist solution.

He warned that these opportunist groups are gaining more power all the time through the paramilitary groups, and this is a serious obstacle to the solution all of society is seeking.

"These groups are not interested in resolving the crisis through the means most Panamanians want to use," he pointed out.

2) It is not clear which parties must find, through negotiations, the solution that is the Crusade's goal.

He pointed out that Noriega is on the one side, but there are also the officers who "must participate in this negotiation." He explained that on the other side are the goals of the Crusade, with which the people have identified and thereby support the Crusade. He said these goals are supported by the political parties.

"That is the counterpoint to Noriega," he stated.

He also emphasized that there are other problems to be resolved later on, not among the parties mentioned above, but among other participating parties. He noted:

"There is no end to the country's crisis. It will be necessary."

1) To resolve the socioeconomic problem. We must carry out a social and economic reconstruction that will help the poor, who are suffering the most and making sacrifices, but surviving.

2) To save the Panamanian national identity by preparing the country for the effective fulfillment of the treaties and reconstructing the overall image of Panama abroad with a Latin American inspiration, and, at the same time, "with serious U.S. cooperation."

"This is necessary for reasons pertaining to the canal and because a feasible economy is called for."

He concluded that "a much more pluralist dialogue is needed in order to reconstruct and save the country, which is a problem affecting all of society."

3) To find formulas for the departure of Noriega and to democratize the country at the expense of political sacrifices, even the most legitimate ones."

He said that the PDC has rights dating back to 1984 that have been denied. "We have been willing to accept sacrifices because we are heading toward disaster, and we see how the people are making sacrifices."

"We concede that there should be a government of national reconstruction that will include those who have been our enemies," the PDC leader emphasized.

Expanding on the importance of the FDP, Arias Calderon said that "nobody in his right mind can believe that it is necessary to divide the FDP." He added that the demilitarized system of Costa Rica "is unfeasible for Panama."

He then gave assurances that "if that is the FDP's fear, that fear is unjustified."

He said that the FDP should not have an Argentine-type democratizing system. "That is a fear that cannot be justified. The future of the Panamanian military would thus be similar to those in Guatemala and Uruguay."

"Let the General Staff make those proposals," he emphasized.

Referring to radical groups, he harshly criticized the creation of a national information system which a headed by a person [Nils Castro] "whose own ideology and experience in Cuba do not qualify him to handle the information of a democratizing state, but rather of a totalitarian-type government."

He also criticized the appointment of a public official [Manuel Ducasa, National Port Authority deputy director] against whom there is evidence linking him to paramilitary groups that attacked PDC headquarters.

He said that he feared that new paramilitary groups would form at government offices.

When asked about the possibility that the Crusade would meet with members of the General Staff, Arias Calderon pointed out that he believed that all formal dialogues and mediations must be preceded by informal contacts in order to find basic points of agreement that would develop into that dialogue.

"To succeed, the dialogue must be preceded by contacts for the purpose of finding points of agreement," Arias Calderon said, adding:

"If these contacts are not made, the people should not be led to believe a so-called dialogue will resolve the problem."

Arias Calderon said there are differences among the opposition groups over whom a democratic government should include, but he observed that this has not prevented the political parties that support the Civic Crusade from working together.

"There are no precedents of the parties doing so much work together, and one of the key issues is that this common effort continue."

"The Crusade and the parties have demonstrated maturity by not forcing anyone to reveal their differences," Arias Calderon emphasized.

The Christian Democratic leader pointed out that the Crusade's general objectives have become the nation's objectives. He said that in his opinion, there are few sectors that do not accept this position, especially among independent labor unions. Arias Calderon asserted that there are Torrijistas and members of the UNADE [National Democratic Union] who have gradually come to accept this position.

Arias Calderon told LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA that his party will ask Latin American and European countries and the United States to maintain "a political, diplomatic, and even economic quarantine" against Panama to isolate Gen Manuel Antonio Noriega.

Arias Calderon, who said he is opposed to a U.S. invasion of Panama, added that Gen Noriega is "clinging to power." He vowed to continue "the peaceful struggle" until a political change is achieved.

The opposition political leader described some sectors' call for a U.S. invasion as "a desperate attitude" that, in his opinion, "would go against the historical trend" of relations between the United States and Latin America in the latter part of this century.

"Desperation is not a good adviser," Calderon said, reiterating the principles of justice, liberty, and democracy expressed by the PDC in various manifestos and communiques.

'Upheaval' Seen If No Quick Crisis Resolution
PA2004025188 Panama City Telemetro Television
in Spanish 2300 GMT 19 Apr 88

[Text] Guillermo Ford, a member of the Molirena [Nationalist Liberal Republican Movement], says the opposing sides in the Panamanian problem should yield and not dismiss the solutions that have emerged. If not, the consequences will be unforeseeable, he says.

This political leader believes the country is dangling from a thread, but he thinks there is still hope if the current leaders are not intransigent. Ford said the crisis cannot be resolved if justice, liberty, and democracy, which have been continually abused, are ignored.

[Begin Ford recording] These 11 months of anguish the Panamanian people have experienced are clearly leading the entire population to a state of desperation. I believe the people involved in the problem have had no desire to reach concrete solutions. The Panamanian people are asking for radical changes in the country's political leadership; however, there is contempt for this opinion held by the majority of the people, because the leaders do not want to use the mechanisms offered, such as the Catholic Church's mediation, or to even make a concrete statement about the possibility of a change in Panama. If we continue on this course, I must say—and I am an optimist by nature—that there is no solution in sight for Panama. If within a short time, a very short time, we do not find a peaceful solution, I believe there will be unprecedented social upheaval in Panama. [end recording]

Tax, Utility Payments by Checks Authorized

PA2004030988 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 19 Apr 88 p A-1

[Excerpts] As of this date, taxes, contributions, duties, services, or other obligations can also be paid with checks or money orders drafted against the national treasury, and be charged to the checking accounts in state banks and other banks established in Panama operating under general licenses.

The measure was adopted through a Cabinet Council resolution and benefits users of public utilities, such as those provided by IRHE [Institute of Hydraulic Resources and Electrification], INTEL [National Institute of Telecommunications], and IDAAN [National Water and Sanitation Institute].

These terms of payment also cover other obligations, such as the workers-employers contributions to the Social Security Fund.

The executive branch measure also covers the payment of taxes as established in the legal national or municipal ordinance for the payment of taxes, contributions, duties, services, or other obligations. [passage omitted]

This measure expands the methods for payment of obligations by private citizens or corporations, which, up to this date, could only pay taxes in cash, with treasury checks, or checks issued by the National Bank of Panama. [passage omitted]

National Information System Implemented

PA1904155888 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 19 Apr 88 p 2

[Text] Dr Nils Castro has been appointed coordinator general of the National Information System (SNI), the state's top-level organization responsible for processing and implementing the Republic of Panama's information policy. The SNI was created by Decree No 27 on 11 April 1988.

Journalist Boris Moreno has been appointed executive coordinator; Victor A. Mirones Jr. has been appointed coordinator general for social communication media; Euclides Fuentes Arroyo has been appointed coordinator of the state's Information and Public Relations Office; Fernan Molinos will be in charge of international information; and Guillermo Franco has been appointed coordinator of radio and television productions, with journalist Reynaldo Barria as his assistant.

Itzel Gondola, who has a degree in journalism, will coordinate the reception and analysis of information from other countries.

The SNI has appointed Hernando Franco to handle public relations and protocol, with Mrs Irma Illueca de Saenz and Mrs Yolanda de Caballero as his assistants.

The SNI's administrative directorate will be headed by Dr Julia McKay. President Solis Palma announced the creation of an advisory council to the SNI's National Coordinating Committee, which will be comprised of journalists Boris Moreno, SNI executive coordinator; Diana Arosemena de Ozores; Jose Hernandez; and Commerce and Industries Minister Mario Rognoni.

Well-known journalists like Rafael Vargas Santos, Francisco Castanedas, and Jorge Ruiz will also be involved with the SNI. The SNI offices are located in the San Lorenzo Room at the Atlapa Convention Center; and its telephone numbers are: 26-4744 and 26-4325; telex: 3784 and 3787; fax: 26-3483.

Agriculture Contingency Plan Outlined

PA2004044188 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 0000 GMT 20 Apr 88

[Excerpts] Today Agricultural Development Minister Hirisnel Sucre met with agriculture-livestock officials to outline a contingency production plan in response to Washington's aggression against Panama. The agriculture-livestock sector has thus initiated a large-scale effort to work with all Panamanian producers. According to the plan, the best alternatives have been sought to achieve the necessary coordination that will result in the objective of producing staple products.

The program's basic outline includes taking advantage of every resource to guarantee national production, the processing as of tomorrow of the necessary credits to promote the first tilling, and the establishment of bases for credit through orders and purchases.

Sucre also announced that credits will be approved quickly and efficiently to cover the largest acreage possible. The best technical assistance will be guaranteed for all the producers who receive credit, and assistance will be offered to the poorest producers.

According to Sucre, the plan will be implemented in phases. Activities will be carried out by areas and by first and second tillings. He explained that the contingency production plan will be carried out without cash because of a lack of dollars caused by the U.S. measures against Panama, which have resulted in consequences similar to a commercial embargo. The program's success will depend on the interest shown by each production sector. In other words, the most important element in the plan is the human element.

The government will guarantee fuel, raw materials, farm machinery, and technical advice for the producers through the MIDA [Agricultural Development Ministry], BDA [Agriculture-Livestock Development Bank],

and all the agencies linked to the agriculture-livestock sector. Sucre asked all officials to make a supreme effort in this task to guarantee food for the people. [passage omitted]

Darisel Espino, general manager of the BDA, pointed out:

[Begin recording] [Reporter] Mr Manager, with the execution of this national contingency plan by the agricultural-livestock sector, the BDA, as representative of the state bank in this sector, will be faced with a new element: a large number of producers who, in the past, did not require BDA or National Bank services. In view of this situation, what will the position be of the BDA and the National Bank?

[Espino] First of all, we are pleased with the producers' response. The producers financed by this bank have offered machinery, seed, and raw materials when available. They are supporting the bank in this process. The bank must likewise support national production, and it will find a way to support all Panamanian producers who are willing to plant crops with BDA financing. [end recording]

At the 2-hour meeting, it was announced that the first phase of the plan will be implemented between 15 April and 30 June.

Argentina

Police Arrest 10 Terrorists, Confiscate Weapons

PY191737 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1430 GMT 19 Apr 88

[Text] Buenos Aires, 19 Apr (TELAM)—Reliable sources have reported that 10 people, reportedly members of a terrorist group, were arrested last night and just before dawn today in nine simultaneous police raids carried out in Buenos Aires and the greater metropolitan area.

It has been learned that those arrested planned to perpetrate attacks in Buenos Aires and suburban areas. The operation was carried out by Buenos Aires and Federal police personnel under the direction of San Isidro Federal Judge Alberto Piotti. The sources added that during the operation, police defused at least two bombs, made up of TNT cakes, which were ready to be detonated.

The secrecy which surrounds the investigation, both at the court and police level, have blocked all reports about the contents of the pamphlets that were found. Nevertheless, it has been learned that all the confiscated material has been turned over to the San Martin police precinct.

This morning, Police Chief Pirker briefed President Alfonsin on the operation. Upon his departure from Government House, Pirker said the police found guns, pamphlets, explosives, ammunition, documents, and pictures. Moreover, he did not reject the possibility of holding a news conference this afternoon to give more information on the issue.

Electricity Service Implements Blackout Plan

PY190352 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 0200 GMT 19 Apr 88

[Excerpt] The 5-hour staggered blackouts in the Federal Capital and Greater Buenos Aires ordered by SEGBA [Greater Buenos Aires Electricity Service] have started.

Power cuts have also been implemented throughout the rest of the country. However, these blackouts vary according to the needs of each sector.

This energy crisis was caused by the technical problems affecting the Embalse and Atucha nuclear plants and the lack of water in the Limay and Uruguay Rivers, which feed the Alicura, El Chocon, and Salto Grande hydroelectric plants.

According to government authorities, this rationing of energy will not last longer than the program established for this week. [passage omitted]

Atucha I 20 Percent Operational

PY191859 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1713 GMT 19 Apr 88

[Text] Buenos Aires, 19 Apr (TELAM)—Just after 1400 [1700 GMT] the CNEA reported that at 1122, the Atucha I nuclear plant was connected to the national Inter-Connected System operating at 20 percent of its capacity.

Through a press release, the CNEA indicates that this afternoon it is hoped that the plant will be operating at 50 percent capacity. It is expected that the plant will be 100 percent operational this weekend.

Bolivia

Minister Duran on New Antinarcotics Ministry

PY191350 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 19 Apr 88

[Text] Interior Minister Juan Carlos Duran has stressed that the Antinarcotics Ministry [Ministerio de Lucha Contra el Narcotrafico] will be incorporated into the cabinet and the framework of the government as soon as possible.

The minister maintained that with the new ministry the fight against drug trafficking will be carried out more efficiently and it will also help improve the system of eradicating drugs.

He stated that the Interior Ministry's Social Affairs Under Secretariat and the Alternative Development Under Secretariat of the Agriculture, Campesino Affairs, and Livestock Affairs Ministry will become under secretariats of the new ministry, thus allowing those two ministries to carry out their specific tasks.

[Words indistinct] to determine its creation, the minister said, when he reported that the appropriate documents are now being drafted.

Official on Jurisdiction in Antidrug Fight

PY191524 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 19 Apr 88

[Text] Jorge Alderete, social defense under secretary, has clarified that only personnel from UMOPAR and the Social Defense Secretariat, which were recently created by the government, can confiscate drugs and arrest drug traffickers.

Alderete criticized the action of Interior Ministry intelligence officers who have abused their functions. The officers arrested 20 producers, traffickers, and consumers in the Yungas Market neighborhood, located in downtown La Paz.

Alderete said that Decree No 21,660, which created UMOPAR and the under secretariat, must be respected [words indistinct] in order to fight drug trafficking.

Consequently no person or other state organization can confiscate drugs or arrest drug traffickers, he stressed.

Brazil

Software Law Regulation 'Meets' U.S. Concerns

PY200404 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese
19 Apr 88 p 16

[Text] Brasilia—For the Brazilian Government, the deadline set by the U.S. Government to impose commercial sanctions against Brazil is this coming Friday, 22 April. On that date the Software Regulation Law will be officially announced with its publication in the official gazette.

The Software Law was signed by President Sarney on 18 December 1987 and published in the official gazette on 22 December. The law stipulated that 120 days after its publication it should be implemented. That deadline is this coming Friday, 22 April.

The Special Secretariat for Information Science [SEI], in the Science and Technology Ministry for the past 4 months, has been working on the regulation of the Software Law, compiling suggestions received from various sectors interested in this matter, ranging from software producers to software users.

The text of the proposed regulation of the Software Law will be carried to President Sarney this week by Science and Technology Minister Luiz Henrique. According to information provided by Milton Seligman, office director of the Science and Technology Ministry, the president should sign the regulation on 22 April. The proposed regulation meets the main concerns of the United States, such as the clear definition of guidelines to determine the similarity of domestic and foreign software. Foreign software will have to be registered at the SEI before it can be marketed in Brazil.

Briefs

Trade Balance Surplus

The Foreign Trade Department of the Bank of Brazil has reported that the trade balance registered a surplus of \$1.21 billion in March, the highest so far this year. Thus the overall surplus for the first quarter of 1988 is \$3.1 billion, which is close to the \$3.4 billion surplus obtained during the first quarter of 1987. [Summary] [PY191915 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 15 Apr 88 p 15]

Chile

Merino Criticizes Demand for Plebiscite Date

PY200114 Santiago Radio Chilena Network
in Spanish 2300 GMT 19 Apr 88

[Text] Admiral Jose Toribio Merino Castro has denied the plebiscite will be held in October. He added that by requesting that the date for the event be set now, the opposition only seeks to create internal political tension. Merino added that this would not be good for the country or for those of us who are certain we will win by a wide margin in the upcoming plebiscite.

The Navy commander, who seemed willing to chat with the media, also said he is willing to talk with political sectors as long as the subjects discussed are important to the country's political life, but he added that he will not talk with Almeyda or Corvalan [Chilean Socialist and Communist Party leaders, respectively] or those who are not legally participating in the game.

Regarding the proposal made by the National Party for a consensus candidate, Merino said the proposal is not feasible because other sectors will want to propose other names. [recorded passage indistinct]

Merino made this statement this afternoon at the Diego Portales Building at the end of the legislative branch session.

Santiago Poll Shows Support for No Vote

PY200102 Santiago Radio Chilena Network
in Spanish 1700 GMT 19 Apr 88

[All figures as heard]

[Text] According to the poll conducted by the Center for Contemporary Studies [Centro de Estudios de la Realidad Contemporanea—CERC] of the Christian Humanist Academy between 25 March and 10 April, 26.1 percent of the votes in Santiago would be for General Pinochet and 44.1 percent would be for the no vote if the plebiscite was held on Sunday, 24 April, and Gen Pinochet was the candidate.

The poll, which was conducted by Carlos Huneeus, who has a degree in political science, with the support of Eduardo Hamuy, also revealed that 92.1 percent of the people polled said they would participate in the plebiscite, which, according to Huneeus, means the Chilean people are for elections and against any other method.

[Begin Huneeus recording] We asked the people whether they would vote in favor of the yes vote if the plebiscite was held next Sunday, 24 April, and Gen Pinochet was the only candidate. We chose to give the people those two alternatives because they are the ones being discussed in Chile, and Gen Pinochet appears to be the most active and real candidate.

During the last poll 26.3 percent of the people in Santiago voiced their support for the yes vote, 43.7 percent supported the no vote, 7.5 percent were undecided, 6.2 percent would not vote, 13 percent had not made up their mind, and 2.4 percent gave varied answers. During this poll, support for the yes vote only dropped by two-tenths of a percent, since 26.1 percent voiced their support for this alternative, while support for the no vote increased by four-tenths of a percent, since 44.1 percent voiced their support for the no vote. The number of undecided people dropped slightly, as well as the number of those who said they will not vote. Eighteen percent did not reveal their decision. [end recording]

Huneeus disclosed other details of the poll, in which 2,000 were interviewed. One of the questions referred to the favorite candidate for the upcoming plebiscite. Fifteen percent of the people polled said yes when asked whether they would prefer Gen Augusto Pinochet as candidate, 4.2 percent said they would support another member of the Armed Forces as candidate, 14.6 percent voiced support for a civilian who supports the government, and 34.5 percent voiced support for a candidate jointly chosen by the military government and the opposition.

Another question was what the people really expect from the upcoming plebiscite—whether the yes vote or the no vote will win. Twenty-four and six-tenths percent said the yes vote will win, 44.3 percent said the no vote will win, and 18.2 percent said they did not care.

Carlos Huneeus said it should be pointed out that the polls reveal that although Gen Pinochet does not have much support, the people believe he will win the plebiscite somehow. In this regard, people were asked whether they thought Pinochet would win or lose the plebiscite and whether the opposition would win or lose the plebiscite.

A total of 48.6 percent said Pinochet will win the plebiscite, 30.3 percent said he will lose it, and 21 percent did not answer this question or simply stated that they did not know. Forty percent of those polled said they believe the opposition will win the plebiscite, 36.5 percent said it will lose, and 23.5 percent said they did not know or did not answer.

These are some of the results of the poll conducted by the Center for Contemporary Studies that were disclosed this morning.

Mandujano Faction of Socialist Party Dissolved
PY191923 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish
9 Apr 88 p C2

[Text] Admitting that it has been unable to overcome its "peculiar organizational weakness," and calling on its members to make an effort to promptly reach PS [Chilean Socialist Party] unity, the Central Committee of the

PS faction led by Manuel Mandujano has decided to dissolve the PS-Mandujano faction. In a communique, the former PS-Mandujano faction states that this decision was prompted by the fact that the existence of the current factions and "leaderships" within the PS are disturbing and are not conducive to reaching an integrating agreement.

Railroad Track Bombed; Strike Continues
PY182121 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1740 GMT
18 Apr 88

[Text] Santiago, 18 Apr (EFE)—Railway service between Santiago and the southern region was temporarily discontinued after two bomb attacks, while the strike being staged by 7,200 railway workers entered its 7th day.

The bombs went off late last night near the milestone marking km 187, in front of a residential area in the southern city of Curico.

Today it was reported in Santiago that the explosion threw a piece of the railroad track over a house, but there were no injuries.

The train engineers of the southern city of Concepcion today joined the stoppage being staged by workers of the state-owned company that runs Chile's railway services. The workers are demanding the reinstatement of some 70 dismissed workers and the dismissal of railway company Director Roberto Darrigrandi.

Company sources have reported that three trains leave every day from Santiago for the south, despite charges by the striking workers that trains are being operated by retired workers and in some cases by disabled people.

Today leaders of the striking workers said they will not return to work unless their demands are met.

Railway Station Bombed
PY190355 Santiago Television Nacional de Chile
Network in Spanish 0030 GMT 19 Apr 88

[Text] A new bomb attack, this time against the Valparaiso station, has been staged against the railway company. Late last night, unidentified people threw a bomb at the station from Errazuriz Street. The bomb, which was made of AN-FO [ammonium nitrate-fuel oil blasting agent] and powder, was aimed at one of the locomotives, but detonated by the side of a train, causing minor damage to the platform and a signal post. Company Director Roberto Darrigrandi condemned the recent attacks against company facilities in several cities, explaining that the railroad tracks have security devices that detect any abnormal situation. He denied reports of a discontinuation of service in Concepcion and Chillan.

[Begin Darrigrandi recording] This shows once again that false and distorted information that confuses the railway workers and the people has given a very special connotation to this strike, as we have said before. [end recording]

Darrigrandi said that 28 workers of the Santiago, (Yaiyai), and Valparaiso engineer unions have been dismissed for participating in the illegal strike.

Colombia

M-19 Blows Up Toll Booths To Mark Anniversary
PA2004022988 Bogota Inravisión Television
Cadena 1 in Spanish 0000 GMT 20 Apr 88

[Report by correspondent Adriana Santacruz from Popayan; broadcast in progress]

[Text] ...Popayan and after evicting the [words indistinct] stations, they dynamited them. According to several eyewitnesses, members of the subversive movement boarded an intercity bus between Santander Quilichao and Mondomo. Half an hour later, as the vehicle arrived at the toll booth in Tunia, the 15 men got off and forced the two female toll collectors, the guard, and the supervisor to leave. They then placed powerful dynamite charges in each station and blew them up, the second one following a 5-minute interval.

[Begin recording] [Speaker] I saw several armed young men running.

[Santacruz] Did they shout any slogans or say anything?

[Speaker] They did.

[Santacruz] What did they say?

[Speaker] Well, happy birthday M-19 [19 April Movement]. [end recording]

Before escaping in a private car that was waiting nearby, the subversives distributed leaflets, harangued the few residents in the area, and scribbled graffiti on walls referring to the M-19's 14th anniversary. This is the second time the M-19 has dynamited the toll booths in Tunia. The only difference is that losses were much more substantial this time.

Paraguay

Opposition Leaders Sign 'Commitment' Document
PY181533 Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish
15 Apr 88 p 8

[All quotation marks as published]

[Text] Yesterday a document of "democratic commitment" was signed by leaders of opposition political organizations. The document was signed by Domingo

Laino, president of the Authentic Radical Liberal Party (PLRA), and Eng Carlos Romero Pereira, leader of the Colorado Party Ethical and Doctrinary Movement.

The document includes the so-called "five basic commitments," which are:

"First: To channel all our efforts and dedication within our respective political organizations to guarantee that, in the immediate future, all political and social forces and sectors in the country will be respected in their quest for a democratic transition."

"Second: To reject any attempt to impose, under any form, the continuation of the current regime, regardless of the methods it adopts, and to reject any form of totalitarianism, whether of the right or of the left.

"Third: To channel our desire to personally serve in our respective parties so as to involve them in an important role in replacing the current authoritarian and antidemocratic government by a provisional one, with the participation of all democratic forces of the country. This provisional government of national commitment will be charged with implementing the necessary conditions for real, authentic, and legitimate elections, based on faithful respect for the principles of a representative democracy in which all will participate.

"Fourth: To struggle as much as possible to prevent the current regime, in its agony, from provoking bloodshed, thus reopening the wounds of 1947, in an effort to make emerge from the smoking ruins of another civil war a model similar to the one that is about to expire.

"Fifth: To continue in a joint, solidaristic, and systematic manner in the quest for points of agreement for a political future of Paraguay in which an authentic political, economic, and social democracy will be assured to all inhabitants of the fatherland. Then, to draw and consolidate methods and organizations with the appropriate force and effectiveness for such an essential and historic role and purpose."

The document, presented yesterday at the Parish Hall of the Beato Roque Parish Church, concludes by urging all political and social sectors to sign "this commitment of national unity, the main objective of which is to assure all citizens that neither Colorados nor Liberals "will try to exert an exclusive and sectorial role in the future life of our country."

Renewal Faction of PLR Holds Convention
PY181548 Asuncion EL DIARIO in Spanish
18 Apr 88 p 8

[Text] At the closing of the Radical Liberal Party (PLR) convention, Assad Yore said: "Using their sovereign rights, the members of the PLR decided to hold the party convention."

Yore said the conventioners started to arrive at his home on Colon and Piribebuy Streets at 0600. At the suggestion of one member, they decided to hold the convention there because the legal quorum of 294 conventioners was already complete and because the police had cordoned off the site where the convention should have been held.

At about 0730 the "Renewal" sector convention was opened under the chairmanship of Deputy Pablo Ramirez, who later surrendered the chair to Dr Persio Franco Becker. Reginaldo Gonzalez and Dr Atilio Saguier were then appointed vice president and secretary, respectively.

Notary Albino Doldan recorded all that was said and done during the convention to testify to its validity.

Yore said that this week convention Chairman Persio Franco will convoke the 30 new members of the recently elected Executive Board, which is the same board that was proposed for the frustrated act that should have been held on 20 March, "to urge them to become the PLR Executive Board." Yore added that that will be reported to the Central Electoral Court.

Yore and the main leaders of the "Renewal" movement have blamed Forestieri and "his group" for the police attempt to prevent the convention from being held.

For this reason, Yore said: "From now on, the party precinct will again belong to the PLR members. We request that it be returned to us. I do not believe Forestieri and his rabble can prevent us, Liberals, from taking over the party chairmanship."

Yore concluded by saying: "Forestieri, Lezcano Torres, and Aniano Denis were suspended for 6 months for having acted as informers, and their actions will be investigated."

U.S. Drug Certification Policy Viewed
PY181722 Asuncion PATRIA in Spanish
17 Apr 88 p 7

[Editorial: "The Duty To Inform Well"; passages in boldface as published]

[Excerpts] We believe it is essential that whenever the press receives a report involving Paraguay that is unclear or barely credible it checks the sources to verify the facts. This should be done to inform the public because if the press uses false reports, it will take incorrect stances, thereby ignoring sound judgement. [passage omitted]

Due to the priority assigned to the struggle against drug trafficking and drug abuse, the mass media—newspapers, magazines, radio stations, and television stations—

has a duty to report accurately and provide true documentation for their position. We often notice that false or clearly unsound reports are published as they are received, without any concern whatsoever as to whether they are accurate or not.

For example, we recently received a report on an alleged \$27-billion aid program for Bolivia to help in the struggle against drug trafficking. We later discovered that the plan was a \$27-million aid program over a 2-year period and a parallel program to replace coca plantations, a program involving \$300 million over a 3-year period. This information is important, but quite different from the astronomical figures published.

We are the only ones who thoroughly insist on knowing the meaning and scope of some reports involving Paraguay. However, as these reports are received from the news agencies, they are unclear and not easy to understand.

A case in point is a report stating that "on 1 March, President Reagan was informed that Paraguay is included among the countries that are not cooperating with the United States in the struggle against drug trafficking. Reagan, however, believing it to be in the best U.S. best interests, certified that Asuncion was cooperating."

Logically, if President Reagan said this it was due to information provided by the State Department international narcotics affairs office, headed by Ann Wroblewski, and they are to blame for this offensive, false report. At any rate, President Reagan's wisdom is noteworthy. He was not misled by the information provided by Wroblewski and approved the certification. In order to minimize her setback, Wroblewski argued that "the U.S. Administration decided to certify the country in the belief that the incipient antinarcotics program would have been harmed by not certifying it." Wroblewski also said that "Washington will investigate the accusations," and warned that these accusations would be included "in the U.S. State Department report to the U.S. Congress."

In the same context, Mexico has just been punished by the U.S. Senate with economic measures and a reduction in trade allowances [preferencias comerciales] "because Mexico does not take the necessary measures to combat drug trafficking."

The Mexican foreign minister lodged a strong protest, of course. However, this is another case. Concerning our country, we were actually interested in what was behind that "certification," and we found an explanation in the protest lodged by the Mexican foreign minister. The protest states that "no power can claim a right to certify the conduct of other societies or governments."

We fully agree with this doctrine. However, in our case and for our interest we must discern between the harassment conducted by Wroblewski, who eagerly criticized

our country unjustly and without reason, and the quiet wisdom of President Reagan, who viewed the problem from a different angle. It is believed that "there are very few chances" for punishment "to be enforced because of Reagan's threat to veto it."

We will not review whether or not the "certification" was appropriate. We can only say that, in Paraguay's case, the certification means the collapse of the pressure of the irregular opposition and another failure for the campaign to harass the national government. This makes us think that the White House has a better knowledge of the praiseworthy efforts Paraguay is making to conduct, with limited resources and equipment, the struggle against drug trafficking, mainly involving clandestine transit through our territory.

Further Comment

PY200213 Asuncion PATRIA in Spanish
19 Apr 88 p 7

[Editorial: "Certification for Cooperation"; passage in boldface as published]

[Text] A few days ago we published the text of Law 357, which establishes punishment for the illegal trafficking of narcotics and dangerous drugs, and other related crimes, and establishes measures for the rehabilitation of drug addicts; and Law 379, which approves and ratifies the agreement between the Paraguayan and U.S. Governments to fight the illegal use of narcotics and other dangerous drugs.

The two laws were promulgated in 1972, and the agreement is an example of the implementation of the general law on Paraguayan-U.S. cooperation. The determination and frankness of the two countries that signed the agreement can be seen in Article VIII, which says that "according to Article 25 of the Vienna Convention on Treaty Rights this agreement will be implemented provisionally from the time of its signing, and it will go definitely into force on the date the Paraguayan Congress, after fulfilling constitutional procedures, notifies the U.S. Government of its ratification."

As can be seen, there was no delay. The Paraguayan willingness to cooperate is above all clearly reflected in that article, which overcomes the obstacle of previous ratification for the implementation of the agreement. Moreover, it should be recalled that the agreement was signed on 26 October 1972 in Asuncion, and its ratification was promulgated by the executive branch on 13 December of the same year. This shows how quickly it went through Congress, because the two chambers approved the agreement in 48 days.

This concrete information shows how wrong Ann Wroblewski, the assistant secretary for international narcotics matters, was when she said the Reagan administration "decided to take such a measure (to certify the cooperation before Congress) because he believed the new

narcotics control program would have been hurt without the certification." What President Reagan really did—according to USIS, Reagan said that "as the exact magnitude and scope of drug trafficking and production in Paraguay are not known"—was to approve the certification to honor justice based on two reasons: first, that cooperation with Paraguay has always been important, as proven by important events during the 16 years since the signing of the agreement; and second, the negative aspect of the closure of the U.S. technical assistance office in Paraguay, which had worked with the Department for Repressing Traffic of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs, and Other Related Crimes. It is obvious that with this evidence it is neither reasonable nor just to talk about a "new program"; it is a reactivation of the program. And that reactivation required as a first priority that the U.S. Government rectify the abandonment of its assistance program, because the agreement was based on the cooperation between the two governments. This cooperation does not mean "half-and-half," but rather that each country should provide according to its capabilities everything needed to fulfill the proposed objectives. If we change the word new to read reactivated, President Reagan's certification can be considered an honest and just recognition. Certainly this recognition may have moved the U.S. President to make that decision, and Ann Wroblewski is wrong in trying to distort the reason for that decision with the argument that "he certified that Asuncion cooperates only for reasons of national interest," with the threat "to investigate accusations," and to include the findings "in the State Department's report to Congress." This report, according to the same source, will be submitted to Congress on 1 May. We are sure, however, that the report will not get there, because the White House has already said that such a procedure would have a negative effect on agreements that might be sought for better coordination of the bilateral and multilateral fight against drug trafficking. An evaluation of the Senate sanctions against Mexico has been made, and according to current opinion a similar sanction against the Bahamas has failed. So President Reagan will veto a sanction against Mexico. This means the position of the White House tenant cannot be considered an act of "indulgence" toward Paraguay. That position is rather a political imperative which, in the specific case of Paraguay, is based on the confession of ignorance of "the exact magnitude and scope" of the problem in Paraguay. It is also based on concrete facts of Paraguayan cooperation over the past years, despite the fact that the United States had closed down its cooperation office for joint action under the terms of the 1972 agreement.

The logical reaction to Ambassador Taylor's stinging critics must be understood in this context of information that was maliciously overlooked or negligently forgotten—information that we have pointed to as undeniable evidence of Paraguay's determined and sustained cooperation. Since he is an expert on drug trafficking, it is difficult to understand why he did not attach any importance to the U.S. neglect, as a result of which the

cooperation office was closed down in our country, despite the fact it was obvious that its operation in our country complemented quite well the implementation of the agreement and, at the same time, served as a consultation agency through which to exchange experiences in order to make more effective the operation of the recently created drug trafficking repression department.

Speaking of "frank discussions," our commentary here is quite frank. But we are not going into "conjectures," whether publicly or privately made, or whether they come from the United States or from local sources. Since "conjecture" means presumption based on probabilities, we do not think it right to point a finger on such grounds at a country or a government, as done by those who have made it their business to defame our country and its authorities with generalizations, without concrete charges, and without serious and responsible indications of who the culprits are. But we believe the nebulous stories are now cleared up, and everything will be for the best.

Peru

Western Saharan Foreign Minister Arrives *PY151454 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish* 1200 GMT 15 Apr 88

[Text] Western Saharan Foreign Minister Omar Mansour has arrived in Lima as part of a tour of Andean countries in search of support for his country, which has fought a war against Morocco since 1975. The visitor said he was bringing a message of friendship and gratitude for the support the Peruvian Government has extended to his country's cause. Mansour, who will meet Foreign Minister Allan Wagner, has reported that this year his country has engaged in an intense military campaign against the military strategy [as heard], adding that major results were accomplished, because the myth of the vulnerability [as heard] of the Moroccan walls was destroyed, thus defeating the forceful occupation of Western Sahara territory.

Shining Path Kills 2 Civil Guardsmen *PY151822 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0206 GMT* 15 Apr 88

[Text] Lima, 14 Apr (EFE)—Today two Peruvian Civil Guardsmen were murdered by the Maoist Shining Path organization in attacks carried out in the jungle and in the Andean region, according to police sources.

These murders follow the deaths of six people—most of them civilian officials of the Andean mining town of Andajes—who were shot last night after a "people's trial." This is according to police sources of Andajes, located 225 km northeast of Lima.

One of the Civil Guardsmen was killed during an attack perpetrated by Shining Path guerrillas at a forest warden station in Satipo, a town located 400 km from Lima in the jungle area of Junin Department, where drug traffickers and terrorists carry out their activities.

On the road linking the Andean cities of Ayacucho and Huancayo, a Civil Guardsman who belonged to "The Sinchis," a special antiguerrilla group, was murdered when Shining Path guerrillas intercepted the bus in which he was traveling to Lima together with his wife.

Including those two policemen, over 40 people have been killed over the last 16 days in attacks carried out by the Shining Path, which has stepped up its activities since the end of March.

21 Killed

PY191505 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0315 GMT
19 Apr 88

[Text] Ayacucho, Peru, 18 Apr (EFE)—It was reported here today that at least 21 people were murdered on 17 April early in the morning in villages in the Apurimac River Valley, located in the jungle area of Ayacucho Department. A group of 80 members of the terrorist group the Shining Path are responsible for the killings.

The reports about the Shining Path raid were made by travelers and transporters from La Mar, located in the same province in which the attacked villages are located. The reports have not yet been confirmed by authorities, however.

According to the reports, a Shining Path commando descended from the Anchihhuay Punas, located in the area of Palmapampa, 198 km north of Ayacucho, and killed 17 people. They also destroyed houses and public premises in the villages. The reports did not name the villages in question.

According to the sources, four campesinos wounded during the raid died on the way to a hospital in San Francisco.

The sources added that military and police units were sent from La Mar and San Francisco, where Army and Navy bases are located, to Almapampa to pursue the terrorists.

During the past few weeks the Maoist organization has unleashed a wave of violence in several places in Peru, murdering 60 people, including the 21 murdered on 17 April.

Venezuela

Fly Sheet Calls for Pro-Libyan Volunteers
PA151613 Caracas EL NACIONAL in Spanish
7 Apr 88 p D-19

[Article by Humberto Alvarez]

[Text] DISIP [Directorate of Intelligence and Prevention Services] officials are investigating the origins of a fly sheet that is circulating in Caracas and that is being attributed to the Libyan Embassy in Caracas.

The fly sheet entitled "Notice" urges volunteers to join the armed struggle against imperialism, Zionism, reactionaries, fascism, and [Chadian President] Hissein Habre. It has been reported that the fly sheets have been widely distributed in the San Bernardino neighborhood, where a large part of the Jewish community in Caracas lives.

A source reported that a Metropolitan Police officer arrested an individual distributing the fly sheets, which were confiscated and turned over to the DISIP. The DISIP notified the Foreign Ministry, which called the Libyan Embassy to ask for an explanation about the distribution of the fly sheets. The Libyan representative said the embassy had drafted two letters of protest because it did not write the fly sheet, which it attributes to the United States. The fly sheet reads as follows:

Notice

Oppressed people of the great South American continent! The great Jamahiriya (state of the masses) of the Libyan socialist Arab people and their revolutionary leader, Mu'ammarr al-Qadhafi, greet and appeal to you.

The people of the world are in danger. The daily life and existence of tribes, families, women, and children are threatened by imperialism—the United States and its international corporations. The people and their leaders are attacked and bombed. The American Indians were exterminated by the Yankee Army and the smallpox virus, which was impregnated in their blankets. The United States tried to assassinate the brother leader in April 1986, but it failed.

The Libyan Jamahiriya—today the center of the revolutionary world—and its leader, Mu'ammarr al-Qadhafi, are under attack from France and America. Libya continues to side with the peoples against the oppressor, and it now asks these peoples to fulfill their duties. The Islamic Legion seeks volunteers for the armed struggle against imperialism, Zionism, racism, reactionaries, fascism, and Hissein Habre. Volunteers will be provided with good clothing, food, equipment, training, and leadership.

The progressive and revolutionary forces of the Caribbean and Latin America must take a step forward. The cause will be that of the world Jamahiriya. You will be taught Arabic if you do not speak it, and you will learn the ideas of the Green Book. You will become either a liberator or a martyr.

Volunteers are asked to present themselves to one of the following people's bureaus of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya in the region:

Panama City, Balboa Avenue and 32d Street

Caracas, Quinta Los Bambues, main avenue of La Castellana

Pamaribo, Dario Saavedralaan 4